

Message Text

SECRET

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43

ACTION SS-25

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E.O. 11652 XGDS-1

TAGS: PARM

SUBJECT: DRAFTING GROUP MEETING, NO. 66, FEBRUARY 12, 1976
(SALT TWO-906)

1. SOVIETS TABLED PROPOSED TEXT ON ICBM SILO LAUNCHER VOLUME INCREASES (ART. IV.4) PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED IN PLENARY. THEY AGREED TO MODIFY THEIR LANGUAGE TO REFER TO ORIGINAL "INTERNAL" VOLUME, BUT AGREED ONLY TO TAKE UNDER CONSIDERATION US PROPOSAL TO REFER TO ICBM SILOS IN THE SINGULAR. THE US SOUGHT TO CLARIFY POSSIBLE AMBIGUITIES IN SOVIET WORDING AND QUESTIONED EFFECT IF ORIGINAL DIMENSIONS WERE DECREASED. SOVIET RESPONSES PROVED INCONCLUSIVE AND, AFTER US SIDE SET FORTH CERTAIN HYPOTHETICAL EXAMPLES INVOLVING DECREASE IN ORIGINAL DIMENSIONS, SOVIETS SAID THEY WISH TO STUDY QUESTION FURTHER. THE US TABLED A PROPOSED AGREED STATEMENT ON THE MEANING OF "ORIGINAL INTERNAL VOLUME."

2. US TABLED PROPOSED HEAVY MISSILE DEFINITION (ART. II.7). THE SOVIETS PROPOSED THE DEFINITION IN KEEPING WITH OTHER DEFINITIONS BE PUT IN THE PLURAL AND SIMPLIFIED, TABLING AN INFORMAL TEXT. US EXPLAINED IT WAS CONCERNED WITH THE CASE

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IN WHICH THERE WERE TWO NON-HEAVY ICBMS, ONE WITH THE HEAVIEST

THROW-WEIGHT AND ONE WITH THE HEAVIEST LAUNCHING WEIGHT. IN SUCH AN INSTANCE, THERE WOULD BE NO SINGLE LARGEST NON-HEAVY ICBM AS A STANDARD, AS SPECIFIED IN SOVIET DRAFT. THERE WAS A LENGTHY INCONCLUSIVE EXCHANGE ON LIGHT ICBM VS. NON-HEAVY ICBM, USING STANDARD ARGUMENTS.

3. THE SOVIETS TABLED THEIR REVISED PROPOSAL FOR FOLLOW-ON NEGOTIATIONS (ART. XV), BUT REFUSED TO BE DRAWN INTO A DISCUSSION OF POSSIBLE WORD DELETIONS.

4. IT WAS AGREED TO RETURN TO THE SILO DIMENSION AND HEAVY MISSILE FORMULATIONS AT THE NEXT DRAFTING GROUP MEETING, SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 17. JOHNSON

SECRET

NNN

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